

Botanical Name: *Parkinsonia* x 'Desert Museum'

Common Name: Desert Museum Palo Verde



Family: Fabaceae

Habitat: Sandy washes and floodplains

Native Distribution: S California, S Arizona

Elevation: Up to 2,500 ft

Hardiness: 15°F

Type: Semi-Evergreen

Size: 25' tall x 25' wide

Shape: Upright

Growth Rate: Fast

Flowers: Bright yellow, pea-like flowers larger than other Palo Verde trees

Bloom Season: Typically spring, sometimes summer

Fruit: Very few seed pods

Foliage: Bright green, bipinnately compound 1/2 " long leaves

Exposure: Full or reflected sun

Shade: Filtered

Water Requirements: Very low

In the Landscape: Very popular landscape tree due to its lack of thorns and can work almost anywhere. They drop their leaves in the winter, so place them on the south, east, or west side for filtered shade in the summer and sun in the winter. Can be grown on turf with good drainage.

Wildlife: Pods attract wildlife and can serve as emergency food source for livestock. Birds also like the seeds. Protect young trees from being eaten by wildlife.

Other Stuff:

- Thornless hybrid of *P. florida*, *P. microphylla*, and *P. aculeate* developed at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Tucson.
- Has a more prolonged blooming period than other Palo Verdes.
- Grows best in native soils with good drainage.
- Excellent nurse plant for young cactus.
- Requires some pruning of fast-growing lower branches.
- Can become top heavy with overwatering.